GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1053
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
NATIONAL POLICY FOR THE WELFARE OF TRIBALS
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Policy on tribals exist in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the suggestions and views of NGOs and other working organizations in the field of tribal welfare have been taken into while formulating the policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken for the welfare of tribals through the policy?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) & (b) While no formal National Policy for Tribals exists, there are several provisions in the constitution for their protection and development. There are also five guiding principles, popularly known as Nehruvian Panchsheel, which are followed for the development of the tribals. These five principles are:-

1.Tribals should be allowed to develop according to their own genius.

2.Tribals` rights in land and forest should be respected.

3.Tribal teams should be trained to undertake administration and development without too many outsiders being inducted.

4.Tribal development should be undertaken without disturbing tribal social and cultural institutions.

5.The index of tribal development should be the quality of their life and not the money spent.

(c), (d) and (e): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is further formulating a comprehensive National Tribal Policy incorporating the suggestions and views of all experts, NGOs and other stakeholders concerned with tribal welfare. The policy is still at draft stage and yet to be finalized as per the established procedure.